



VOL. IV.

TRENTON, N. J., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1890.

NO. 26.

THE BOY WHO MINDS HIS MOTHER.

Boys, just listen for a moment
To a word I have to say:
Manhood's gates are just before you,
Drawing nearer every day;
Bear in mind while you are passing
O'er the intervening span
That the boy who minds his mother
Seldom makes a wicked man.

There are many slips and failures
In this world we're living in;
Those who start with prospects fairest
Often are overcome by sin!
But I'm certain that you'll notice,
If the facts you'll closely scan,
That the boy who minds his mother
Seldom makes a wicked man.

Then be guided by her counsel;
It will never lead astray.
Rest assured she has your welfare
In her thoughts by night and day.
Don't forget that she has loved you,
Since the day your life began.
Ah, the boy who minds his mother
Seldom makes a wicked man.

WRONG PLACE TO LAUGH.

How a Russian Noble Was Degraded and Exiled by Empress Catharine.

The Veritzins were nobles of enormous wealth and power. Paul held a high office in court. One night, glittering with jewels and orders, the young Prince, who was one of the handsomest men in Russia, danced in quadrille opposite the Empress Catharine.

As she passed him in the dance she fancied that his eyes scanned her gross figure with covert amusement. After the quadrille she beckoned to him, and with a smile handed him her tiny ivory tables, containing seven pages, one for each day in the week. On the first was written:

"The Imperial ballroom, St. Petersburg."

On the last:

"The mines, Siberia."

He read it; his face grew as gray as that of a corpse; he bowed low, kissed her hand and withdrew, "taking," says the old chronicle, "his wife, the beautiful Princess of Novgorod, with him." He was heard to say as he left the ballroom: "My minutes are numbered; let us not lose one."

Flight or resistance was impossible. The hold of Catherine on her victim was inexorable as death. Prince Veritzin was forced to remain passive in his palace, while each day the power, the wealth and the happiness that life had given him were stripped from him.

First he was degraded from all his offices at court; next his estates were confiscated by the Crown, his friends were forbidden to hold any communication with him; his very name, one of the noblest in Russia, was taken from him and he was given that of a serf. Then his wife and children were driven out of the palace to herd with beggars.

"The last day," says an old record, "Paul Veritzin, in rags and barefooted, bade an eternal farewell to his home and departed to the dark and icy North. He was seen of men no more.—Chatter.

DR. GILLETT TO MR. BELL.

The Controversy Over the Marrying of Deaf-Mutes.

Dr. Gillett Thinks that the Inter-marriage of the Deaf Should Not be Discouraged While Prof. Bell Thinks it Should be Stopped.

Professor Alexander Graham Bell, in a recent number of *Science* (Sept. 5), correctly quotes me as saying: "I do not discourage the inter-marriages of the deaf, as they are usually more happily mated thus than where one of the parties only is deaf. The deaf need the companionship of married life more than those who hear, and it is a gross wrong to discourage it." And he adds the following statement and inquiry: "Dr. Gillett is probably the oldest teacher in America—not oldest in years, but oldest in service—and he is looked up to as a guide by very many in the profession. Much good might arise from a comparison of views between Dr. Gillett and those scientific gentlemen who have given most attention to the subject of heredity. May I ask him, through the columns of *Science*, what would be his advice in such a case as the following? A young man (not a deaf-mute), became deaf in childhood while attending public school. He has one brother who is a deaf-mute, and another who can hear. Two others of the family (believed to be hearing), died young. The father of this young man was born deaf in one ear, and lost the hearing of another subsequently from illness. He had a congenitally deaf brother who married a congenitally deaf-mute and had four children (three of them congenitally deaf-mutes). The mother of the young man was a congenitally deaf-mute, and she also had a brother born deaf. The paternal grandmother of the young man was a congenitally deaf-mute, and she had a brother who was born deaf. This brother married a deaf-mute and had one son born deaf. The great grandfather of this young man (father of his paternal grandmother), was a congenitally deaf-mute; and he was, as far as known, the first deaf-mute in the family. Thus deafness has come down to this young man through four successive generations, and he now wants to marry a congenitally deaf-mute. The young lady has seven hearing brothers and sisters, and there was no deafness in her ancestry, but she herself is believed by her family to have been born deaf. Dr. Gillett must not think that this is a purely hypothetical case, for it is not. The parties are engaged, but the marriage has not yet been consummated, and I know that Dr. Gillett's advice would have weight with the young people. The teacher of the young lady has been consulted, and she feels the responsibility deeply. Her heart is with the young couple and she

desires their happiness, and yet her judgment is opposed to the union. Will Dr. Gillett tell us what his advice would be in such a case?"

My advice in such a case as this would be for the young people to examine themselves carefully as to what their motives are in contemplating matrimony. If they have no higher thought than the animal impulse, I would advise them by no means to enter into the sacred relation; but if they are already so united in heart that each is needful to the happiness of the other, I would advise them as soon as their circumstances are such as to enable them to maintain a family in comfort, whether the children should hear or be deaf, to follow the promptings of their higher nature, with a determination to rear their children to respectability and usefulness, which they can do in one case almost as effectually as in the other. Thus one happy union will certainly be effected; while, if prevented, not only would this be estopped, but probably two unhappy, because uncongenial, ones would ensue. If deafness were a crime, or a disgrace, or entailed suffering, I would discourage it; since it does not, I deem it wise to encourage such a marriage, if the parties most interested believe, after reflection, that their own happiness will be promoted thereby.

That there are some deaf persons sprung from deaf parents is admitted, but their number is very small. There has been much discussion of late years about the advisability of deaf-mutes marrying, lest the infirmity of deafness may descend to their offspring, and a deaf variety of the human race be formed. Until a few sparrows will make spring, this hobgoblin will never materialize. Deafness is not continued by hereditary transmission in a direct line, except in rare instances. Not two per cent. of the deaf and dumb are the children of deaf parents, though it cannot be denied that a susceptibility to the infirmity inheres in certain kindreds; so that we find it true, that, while a deaf pair seldom have deaf children, they have numerous other relations—as uncles, aunts, first, second and third cousins, nephews, and nieces—who are thus afflicted. Hence, if some philanthropist is more concerned for the happiness of those who as yet are not, and may never be, than of those who now are and will for years continue with us, let him not discourage the marriage of those who are deaf but that of their kinsmen; as, these being able to hear, and having all social advantages, the deprivation will not be so serious a matter to them as to their deaf relatives. The truth of this matter is, that, after laying all maudlin sentiment aside, there is no other class of people who so greatly need the companionship of the conjugal relation as the deaf and dumb. Shut out from church privileges, as preaching of the Word, prayer-meetings, socials, receptions,

lectures, concerts, parties, what remains to them of all that makes life pleasurable to us? The deprivation of their hearing has not diminished their social instinct. For companionship, family ties, and festive associations, they have as strong affinities as any one. The isolation caused by deafness, I believe, makes the marital impulse stronger in them than in others. To forbid them, as some would, matrimony, the one remaining, but most helpful and enjoyable of all social and family relations, is a monstrous cruelty with very little reason. For these reasons, after many years of observation, in which I have known hundreds of instances of deaf-mute unions, and after closely studying my more than two thousand pupils, one of my highest pleasures and satisfactions is to see them judiciously and happily mated in the conjugal relation. For the foregoing reasons I have long approved, and still do, of the marriage of the deaf; and I believe that, as a general rule, their intermarriage is more congenial, and productive of more happiness, than the marriage of deaf with hearing persons, though I have known most beautiful and happy unions of the latter kind. "Be ye not unequally yoked together," is a Scripture injunction that bears with as much force upon the deaf as upon any others. That it would be possible in process of time to generate families who would all be deaf, I fully believe. If the object of matrimony was only to produce human animals, irrespective of their mental and spiritual nature, I should advocate the prevention of the marriage not only of the deaf, but of some other classes who labor under physical defects. But this is not the case. A true marriage is upon a higher and holier basis than this. Its essential element is in the affections of a pair whose perfect union is necessary to their happiness. The happiness of this pair I believe to be of more consequence to themselves and to society than the possible or even probable inconvenience of their offspring. I say inconvenience, for deafness is neither a crime nor a disgrace; nor does it inflict any suffering on its subject. There was a time when the deaf were considered but brutes and classed as idiots, and treated accordingly. This time, all are thankful, is past; and in our time deaf persons are often in society the peers of any other, in all that makes true nobility of character and manhood. In education, in mechanical skill, in aesthetic culture, in artistic talent, in true refinement and taste, they are oftentimes above the average of hearing people; and sometimes the deaf member of the family is the one of all his kindred most entitled to respect, because his deafness, having withdrawn him from his surroundings, has placed within his reach an education and culture that enables him to live on a higher plane than any of his relations enjoy, and than he would have enjoyed if he

(Continued on fourth page.)

The Silent Worker.

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AT THE

New Jersey School for Deaf-Mutes.

All contributions must be accompanied with the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

TRENTON, NOVEMBER 27, 1890.

WE notice that some of the institution papers speak of failing to get the SILENT WORKER. We will overhaul our mailing list and will supply any omissions we may detect.

TALLEYRAND, the wily French statesman, in giving instructions to his subordinates, used to close with the words: "Above all, no zeal!" He wanted those under him to carry out his ideas exactly, and not to have any ideas of their own. That motto would not apply to the teachers of this school. Many of them are doing valuable work quite outside of what is required of them. Classes in articulation and other branches get instruction for which the hours of the school are not long enough, and which is rendered gratuitously from interest in the the pupils. We are glad that our teachers are not mere hirelings, but that they love their work and are warmly interested in the pupils.

OUR library is receiving additions, month by month, and will, in time, reach a good size. This month we have got some valuable books of reference, several works on Education, and a number of fascinating stories for the reading of the pupils. The works of fiction which we get are selected by the pupils themselves in this way. A story is told to them, in outline, as an evening exercise, two or three times a week, by means of the finger alphabet. If the pupils are much interested in it, they will ask for the book. If the demand is general, the book goes down on the list for the next month's purchases. When it comes, it is in eager demand, and is read by many who would not have cared to read it but for the knowledge of its contents gained by the explanation given in the chapel lectures. Among the books introduced in this way are Ben Hur, Prince and Pauper, Lord Fauntleroy, The Black Arrow, Tales from Shakspeare and others of similar type. We advise all the deaf to read, read, READ; read anything—everything, if only it is not immoral—read at all times and in all places; read simple language which can be understood without effort, and read difficult language which demands your closest attention, and which you can't entirely understand at that. In this way any person will come to understand written language fully, and that end cannot be reached in any other way.

It is the custom in this school to let the pupils hold an election of their own every year, on the evening of Election Day. An explanation is given of the nature of the offices to be filled by the real election held that day, and the qualifications of a voter are given. Then all the pupils, without distinction of sex, are provided with ballots and are allowed to vote as they may choose. This year the new system of voting was illustrated by fitting up a booth on the chapel stage, in which each voter went and prepared his or her ballot. The result of our elections generally agrees with that given by the voters of the State. Care is taken that no political influence be exerted on the pupils by the officers of the school, so that they generally reflect the opinions which prevail at their homes. In 1888, when Harrison was elected, he got a majority among our pupils and this year the Democratic victory in the State was foreshadowed by the vote of our pupils. This is one of the "straws" which "show how the wind blows."

THE *Clonian* is a paper published in Portland, Oregon, and devoted to the interests of the deaf. We have received copies, and have placed the name on our exchange list. It is a bright paper, and we hope it will be successful.

WE learn from our exchanges that many of the institution presses issue a little daily sheet, like our *Bulletin*, and the teachers find these papers very useful in cultivating a habit of reading.

Will Soon be Ready.

We understand that the printed report of the proceedings of last Summer's Convention of Instructors of the Deaf is coming on very well. Prof. Currier, the energetic and business-like secretary of the convention edits the report, which will be printed at the New York Institution. Mr. Currier expects to have it ready in January.

No Coal in Her Bed.

The other day, one of our teachers, in giving her class a geography lesson, used the words, "Coal is usually found in beds." She heard a voice at one side of the room pipe out, "Nevare; Nevare." She looked around and saw a little girl of ten shaking her head vigorously. When the little girl caught the teacher's eye, she said with her fingers: "I never found coal in my bed."

Secured Employment.

Mr. R. C. Stephenson, lately a pupil in this school, has secured a position in the Morrisville Rubber Works. He says that he is engaged on piece work, and that he can earn good wages. He is a good workman, and can turn his hand to anything. The training which our boys get in drawing and in mechanical work helps them to learn any kind of trade when they leave school. Most new hands have to work six weeks or two months by the day before they are allowed to work on piece work, but Stephenson had only to work two weeks before he was promoted.

WHY SHOULDN'T THEY?

We Can See No Good Reason Why Deaf-Mutes Should Not Marry.

We reprint in this number, from *Science*, Dr. Gillett's letter in reply to a request of Dr. A. Graham Bell for his views on the propriety of marriage between deaf-mutes. It is well known that Dr. Bell is opposed to such unions, and he is generally represented as favoring their prohibition by law. We think that his name is used without authority in advocacy of this measure, as we have never read anything from his pen in favor of such legislation, and, if we remember rightly, he distinctly disavowed, some years ago, any wish to interfere by law with the marriages of the deaf. However, it seems to be in order just now for everybody who is interested in the education of the deaf to answer questions on this subject, which are usually put in the shape in which we have been asked: "What do you think of Professor Bell's plan to have the marriage of deaf-mutes forbidden by law?"

Well then, in the first place, we think that the plan is not Dr. Bell's at all. Whoever proposed it, it reminds us, in Milton's phrase, of the "exploit of that gallant man who thought to pound up the crows by shutting his park gate." There are in the Union, if we have kept up with the rapid march of events, forty-three States, each of which is sovereign and independent in the control of its own internal affairs, including the regulation of marriage. There is probably no single point in the law of marriage on which all the States agree, except that no person who is already married shall have another husband or wife until separated from the first by death or divorce. Now, it is evident that to try to get forty-three legislatures to pass and to keep in force a law against the marriage of deaf-mutes would be hopeless, while if only a few States had such a law, parties intending to marry could easily evade it by going into another State where such marriages were lawful, to have the ceremony performed.

Such a law, even if it could be enforced, would be an unjust discrimination against one class in the community, unless it formed part of a very comprehensive system of restriction on marriage, such as our people certainly would not endure. To be born deaf is not so great a misfortune to the individual nor so much a menace to the community as to be born scrofulous or consumptive, or with a tendency to drunkenness, insanity or crime. But if all persons whose offspring are more likely than others to show one of those taints are restrained from marriage, it needs no very deep reasoning to show that the remedy will be worse than the disease.

If, then, we must allow the diseased and criminals to multiply their kind, much more would it be inadvisable to forbid deaf persons, of intelligence, sound health and good morals to become husbands, wives and parents. But even if the proposed law could be carried out, and if we waive the question of justice, the principal cause of congenital deafness would not thereby be removed. We do not mean to go into the technical discussion of this point. Dr. Bell has collected a vast mass of statistics in

regard to deafness, and his scientific eminence gives great weight to his opinion. We may concede that he has shown a tendency towards the increase of deafness from the intermarriage of the deaf. But the fact remains that, so far, judging from actual experience, the marriages which produce three, four or five deaf children are not those of deaf people, but of the hearing. As we write, we can recall but one case in which we have known deaf parents to have more than two deaf children, while we count up with a moment's thought five families in which the parents are hearing persons, and in which there have been twenty deaf children.

It will be time to agitate for the remedy of evils arising from the marriage of the deaf when experience shall have shown these evils to be serious. Nature probably has some forces at work to counteract the tendency to the increase of deafness, just as she has some means of preventing the universal spread of loathsome diseases and other evils which threaten the community. Don't worry!

Rabbit Stew Dinner.

Game is not quite as abundant with us as in the vicinity of the institutions in some of our Western States where the gentlemen shoot coyotes and jack rabbits from the back door-steps, yet there is some shooting to be had hereabouts. On the first of this month Mr. Wright and Mr. Burd went gunning, and got enough rabbits to treat the pupils to a dinner of rabbit stew.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

What the School Has to be Thankful For.

This number of the SILENT WORKER comes out on Thanksgiving Day, and so it is very right and proper that we should be allowed to say a few words about this holiday. Thanksgiving Day is useful to remind us how many blessings we have, for all which we must be thankful to God. But we cannot well be happy and thankful on an empty stomach, so we always try to have a better dinner than usual on Thanksgiving. After we have eaten our fill of turkey, mince pie and other delicacies, we feel thankful for the dinner, and are ready to appreciate any other good things that we can find that we have received. If the pupils of this school will look back over the past year they will find a good many things to be thankful for. We will mention some of them:

First. The school is growing in numbers, and so many deaf children who would otherwise grow up in ignorance are receiving an education.

Second. The pupils have had a large number of interesting and useful books and periodicals furnished for their reading. A reading room has been fitted up for them and they can sit and read like gentlemen at a club.

Third. The department of art has been established, and all the pupils have a chance to cultivate their talents in this direction.

Fourth. We have had general good health among our pupils throughout the year.

And now, with thanks for past mercies, we hope that the next year may be still better, if it please God, and will try to make it more useful, to ourselves and to others.

CONTRIBUTED BY PUPILS.

Matters Interesting to Them
Written for the Silent
Worker.

KATIE EHRLICH.

Last year I never learned to reduce fractions, but I am learning this year, and I am very glad. I like it very much, because I think fractions are very easy. I would like to learn all things, and I will try.

V. A. H.

Miss Snowden, our teacher, was absent from school on account of attending her friend's wedding on the 12th of this month. We think she was her friend's brides maid. Although she says not.

FRANK NUTT.

Austria has the largest salt mines in the world. We use salt for seasoning food, and the price of a pound of salt is only three cents. The people cover meat and fish with salt, then put it away, in order to keep it good. Lot's wife became a pillar of salt because she did not obey God. Salt looks like sugar. Horses and sheep are fond of it. It is a bad sign to spill salt. To eat much salt would be bad. New York, Michigan, Nevada and some other States have some salt mines. I have never seen a salt mine.

ESSIE H. SPANTON.

Thanksgiving will come very soon. Some of the girls expect to go home at that time. I know I will have a good time at home because my cousin is coming to visit us; he is from Utica, New York. I will go to New York sometime during the holidays. The big girls have moved into Miss Flynn's room and we are going to make the room look very nice and neat. Miss Flynn took Mrs. Miller's room as she boards outside of this school. My news is very scanty this time, but I will try to write more after Thanksgiving as the news will be plenty then.

E. M. MANNING.

There used to be a famous fire eater named Richardson. He ate burning brimstone and red-hot coal, chewing and swallowing it. He melted a beer glass and ate nearly all of it. He picked out a red-hot iron with his teeth and held it in his mouth till it cooled. M. Chambert went into a hot oven with a raw leg of mutton and remained there until the mutton was cooked. Then he came out. At another time he stood in a blazing tar barrel till the barrel was consumed. Did you ever see any one eat fire? I wonder why the fire did not burn his tongue.

JOHN B. WARD.

My aunt and cousins left their home in Wisconsin, and they travelled to the East last July. When they arrived at my home, on August 1st, my parents and family were glad to see them. We were surprised that they came from Wisconsin. My aunt and cousin staid at my home for one week, and they were pleased to converse with us about the things they had seen while travelling. Then they went to the New England States and returned home to Wisconsin. They got home safe. They had a good time in travelling to the East and West. My Cousin Carrie writes to my sister that Newark was the hottest place she ever got into, because they were at Newark that awful hot week. I think that she was very kind to present each of us with a beautiful thing. She is still teaching in Wisconsin now.

CORA CAVENNER.

This morning Bessie Sutphin's father came to this school and I suppose he wanted to see her; and he was very glad and happy, and Bessie's father visited the school and he talked with Miss Bunting, and then he went to work, and she told me that she was very sorry he went away. Mr. Sutphin told Bessie that she could come home Thanksgiving, and I suppose she will be very glad to go. Yesterday was Hattie Dixon's birthday, and all the girls kissed her, and Josie Hattersley went to the city for a present for Hattie Dixon, and she gave her a vase, and it was very pretty. She was very happy, and thanked her, and showed the vase to some of the girls.

ELLIS MARBE.

Last Summer I had a very good time and a long vacation. In August my sisters and my friend went to Jersey City station for the popular excursions to the Upper Hudson via the steamer Cygnus. I saw an old house belonging to George Washington at Newburg, N. Y. At West Point I saw Custer's Monument near the Parade Grounds, also the library with dome and Kosciusko's Monument on North Point. I saw Washington's headquarters, just south of Newburg. It had high chimneys, low sloping roof and flag-staff.

JOSIE SCHOLL.

Last Saturday afternoon some of the large and small girls went to the Opera House and they were looking at the play of "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Josie Hattersley took Hattie Dixon and Martha Bradley as they wanted to see "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and I would not go to the Opera House. I had no money. Hattie Dixon and Edna Miller and Martha Bradley and Emma Beesley went to Josie Hattersley's house because they wanted a drink of water as they were very thirsty. They all enjoyed the play very much.

EDNA MILLER.

Sarah Cassidy told me that she got a letter from her sister asking if she wants to go home. She will go home on Thanksgiving Day. Next time Anna Mackenzie and I will try to have permission to go to visit my friend who lives in Trenton. She said that I shall have a kind reception for my friend. My aunt said that she will come home and come to see me when I go to Newark on Christmas.

A Mean Letter.

"People are so apt to set their hearts too much on capital 'I.' Look at it! It is the smallest, narrowest letter in the alphabet! The love of it contracts and narrows the soul! It looks, you see, like the figure '1,' and it means no more. 'Try another letter this year! Try 'U,' for instance! The world is full of them!"

Butter From a Coconut.

Butter from the milk of a coconut is the latest invention or discovery of German science. It is said that the article produced is very palatable, with only a slight flavor of the nut from which its basis comes. Vegetable butter would certainly be a novelty and those who shun all animal products would hold up both hands for an article which (unlike oleomargarine or "bull-butter") owes its distinctive quality to a vegetable oil, not to an animal fat. Accounting for the milk in the coconut may remain an unsolved problem, if we can only get the butter.

SOUNDS CURIOUS.

One of Our Pupils Says That She
Heard the Waltz.

The other day, in looking over a story written by one of our pupils, relating a visit she made last Summer to a pleasure resort, we noticed the expression, "I heard the waltz." Any one not familiar with the deaf would think this a curious thing for a girl to say who cannot hear the loudest sound. What she meant was not that she heard the music in the same way that other people hear, with the ears, but that she felt the rhythmical beat of the floor under the dancers' feet, and probably also the shock of the air waves from the musical instruments. It is a fact that such sounds as the discharge of a cannon, the beating of a drum and the lower tones of the organ are perceived by deaf persons through the ordinary nerves of sensation, while shrill noises such as the notes of a fife, which most persons would call louder than the others, are not perceived at all. Deaf people generally say that they feel these sounds in the region of the diaphragm. Perhaps the bony framework of the chest makes a sort of drum which answers to the beating of the waves of sound. A deaf lady of our acquaintance, married to a hearing gentleman, often asks her husband the meaning of a sound, such as a foot step, or the shutting of a door, which he had not noticed at all. The same lady chooses her seat in church with reference to the music of the organ, which she very much enjoys. In some schools for the deaf the pupils are taught to march to the tap of the drum, and no difficulty is found in regulating, by this means, the movement of two or three hundred deaf persons. This does not show that deaf persons have a special sense which other persons have not. It only shows that many sounds can be both heard and felt. We who hear pay little attention to the feeling of sound, and so fail to notice that effect, while the deaf cultivate this sense to a high degree.

New Girl.

We now have a girl to wait on the front door and answer the telephone. We never had anybody, hitherto, whose regular duty it was to do this. It was often very inconvenient to take a servant from her regular work to wait on the door.

May Build a New Track.

It is said that the Trenton Horse Railroad Company may, perhaps, build a track out Hamilton avenue as far as Olden avenue, and also through Washington street from Hamilton avenue to Clinton street. But they will not do so unless they can use electricity. The city government will not allow them to use electricity to drive the cars. Perhaps they may allow them to do so, after a while.

Painful Accident.

Little Ruth Redman, whose sweet temper and pleasant ways have made her a general favorite, met with a painful, though not a severe accident, a few days ago. While in the bath, she accidentally turned the hot water faucet and scalded her shoulder. She was instantly caught up, but she suffered very much. Yet she did not make a sound, though the tears rained down her cheeks.

We Have a Bicycle Rider.

One of our lady teachers has lately bought a Safety bicycle and she takes much pleasure in riding on it. Bicycle riding is very good fun, and also very good exercise. It is good for ladies as well as for gentlemen. We wish all the ladies and misses in this school would take plenty of outdoor exercise. It would make them strong and healthy.

Mr. Garwood in Poor Health.

Mr. Garwood, our night watchman, is in very poor health. He was sick for a week or two in September, but he got better. Lately he was losing strength, and on Monday he was unable to come to his work at the institution. We are very sorry for him, because he has been faithful and pleasant. All the deaf children like him. We hope he will soon get well again.

The Pupils and the Theatre.

Trenton is quite a good-sized place, having about sixty thousand population. We have here one of the finest theatres in the State, and, being about midway between New York and Philadelphia, we often have plays given by some of the best theatrical companies. Many of our pupils like to see a play when they can. Some of the parents like to have their children go to the theatre sometimes, but others object to it. If a pupil's parents object to the theatre, that pupil is not allowed to go. But where the parents are willing, the pupils are sometimes allowed to go to performances of a good play, and they enjoy it very much. Uncle Tom's Cabin is a popular play. It comes to Trenton about once every year. Many of the pupils go to see it. Then they want to read the story of Uncle Tom. So it is useful for them to see the play. The play of Shenandoah was given in Trenton lately. Some of the big boys went to see it. When they came home they asked many questions about the war. In this way they learned a good many facts.

Arkansas Pranks.

Arkansas has always been called a pretty tough State. From what we read in the *Optic* we think that it is so indeed. We read in that sprightly paper that "Frank Thompson brought five wild cats to the school, and they are kept in the barn so that the girls cannot spoil them." Is it true that even the girls in Arkansas have such tempers that it would demoralize a wild cat to associate with them? Again; in the same number, there is an article by "Jackdaw," who seems to be a stranger in Arkansas—what they call a "tenderfoot." It seems that the natives have been playing jokes on him. They told him that he must learn to ride horseback, and that it was easy enough. Well, they got him a Texas pony and put him on it, and then the fun began. The performance ended with a grand "bucking" act, which sent poor "Jackdaw" up like a Rugby football from the toe of a Princetonian. The next Saturday some of the Arkansans beguiled him into taking a long tramp with a gun on his shoulder, after quail, rabbits, deer and bears. They led him through mud, briars, and cane-brakes, over rocks, stumps and fallen trees, but no game was sighted. Poor Jackdaw had to take all Sunday to smooth his ruffled plumage.

Principal Witness a Deaf-Mute.

There was a case of unusual interest in the United States court one day last week. It was a case of cattle stealing on the Indian Reservation and the principal witness was a deaf-mute Indian. He has never been to school yet he converses very readily with his friends in the sign language of the Indians. In taking his testimony the services of two interpreters were required, one to translate his evidence from the signs to the Sioux dialect, and the other to again interpret from this into English. His evidence was given in such a straight-forward manner that he was not questioned.—*Dakota Advocate*.

Abused by Wealth.

Among the peasants of the Government of Orlov, Russia, there is a custom of working on certain days during the Spring and Summer on the "Tolokay." This custom originated in the benevolent desire of the laborers to help their aged and feeble fellows. They assembled on certain days to work gratuitously in the fields of such peasants as were incapacitated by sickness or old age to do their own work. The poor peasant thus helped was wont to prepare a treat for his fellow laborers for their kindness. Now this usage is taken advantage of by wealthy landowners to get work for nothing. They invite the peasants of their respective villages to work for them on the "Tolokay" of a Sunday, and treat them with large quantities of brandy when the day's work is done. Orgies of the most baneful description the whole Sunday night result from this practice, and neither the laborers nor those who derive the profit of their work can be held to account; the former because they do not work for pay, and the latter because the peasants work of their own accord.

Examples Can be Cited.

In looking over the list of deaf-mutes who have succeeded in convincing the world that deafness is not a bar to success, we notice that the journals of the deaf give credit only to those who have risen in professional life. We often see chronicled the fact that Mr. A is a lawyer, and Mr. B a rising clergyman, Mr. C an architect and so on, but we rarely see a rising business man given credit. Is this because no deaf-mutes have thus distinguished themselves or is it because less pluck and brains is required to succeed in business? But a number of examples can be cited, and these are all the more remarkable because they had to overcome the prejudices of the hearing world. Other things being equal, it is probably more convenient for them to patronize a hearing person. On the other hand a deaf man in professional life does not come so directly in contact with the prejudices of the hearing. Mr. Dougherty informs us that Henry B. Scammals is a prominent business man of Saint Louis. He was a classmate of Prof. Draper at Hartford, and after locating in Saint Louis, entered the printing business, in which he has succeeded in amassing several hundred thousand dollars. Besides being a member of the firm of the Planet Printing House Company, he figures often in some of the notable real estate deals of Saint Louis. Mr. Scammals is seldom seen with the deaf. His wife is a hearing lady by whom he has several children.

DR. BELL'S THEORY.**Mr. Knapp Says Those Who Oppose it do so from Selfish Motives.**

Just now Dr. Bell's theory of a "Deaf Variety of the Human Race" is getting a good deal of notice. Mr. Knapp, of Baltimore, was lately interviewed on the subject, and allowed himself to say that those who opposed Dr. Bell's views are teachers of the deaf who are actuated by selfish motives, and who wish the supply of deaf-mutes kept up to make the teaching of them "a steady job."

One of our exchanges says, in regard to this, that teachers of deaf-mutes would soon be out of work if they depended for pupils on the offspring of deaf-mute parents. In this school, for instance, out of one hundred and nineteen pupils now in attendance, two are the children of deaf parents. Dr. Gillett, of Illinois, when the article was shown to him, declined to discuss it, for, as he said: "Either the man does not know what he is talking about, or if he knows, he wilfully misrepresents." In all this heated discussion about Dr. Bell's theory, it is worth while to remember that none of the personal attacks and insinuations as to the motives of the deaf or of their teachers who prefer the sign method, and who favor the inter-marriage of the deaf, have come from Dr. Bell himself. The deaf have never had a more disinterested, active and generous friend than he, nor is there any one who has more sympathy with all efforts put forth for their benefit. That he has done so much for the cause in the way of pecuniary gifts may prove only his greater pecuniary ability, but the time and labor which he has devoted to the subject prove him a genuine friend of the deaf. It is all the more to his credit that this work is entirely outside of his profession, and that he has no reward in money or fame to look for in this work.

Valentine's Blind Girl.

Valentine's statue of the blind girl is nearly ready for the cast at his studio in Richmond. The Richmond Times speaking of it says: The idea came to the sculptor while he was listening to the singing of a blind girl in the Institution at Staunton. The child had never seen a human being, and this is what she sang:

"For thee, my God, the living God,
My thirsty soul doth pine;
Oh, when shall I behold thy face,
Thou Majesty divine?"

The cast represents a girl about fourteen years of age, with her hands clasped over her breast and her face raised longingly toward Heaven. Her refined face shows a warm spirituality in keeping with her song. The whole is marked with a rare simplicity.

The above fact has, we think, already appeared in the *Gazette*, but it won't hurt to publish it again. We should like to know the name of the girl who gave to the great Virginia sculptor this beautiful idea. She has not lived in vain, though her life amounts to nothing more.—*Goodson Gazette*.

SAM JONES, the evangelist, will lecture in Florida this winter.

MARK TWAIN received \$60,000 in royalties from the play in which the famous Mulberry Sellers appears.

GILLET vs. BELL.

(Continued from first page.)

had not been deaf. There is in society a vast amount of practical ignorance concerning the deaf, which it seems almost impossible to eradicate. This is one of the heritages handed down from the former times, when deafness was indeed a great calamity, consigning its subject to perpetual infancy in law, and to dense ignorance for life. But, as already stated, times have changed; and what was once a calamity is now only a serious inconvenience. There are other inconveniences that descend by heredity that we might quite as well combat through matrimony as deafness. Baldness is a physical defect that is often (in fly-time and in cold weather, or when sitting in a draught, for instance) a great inconvenience; but who ever thought of classing the bald-headed among defective classes, or of regarding baldness as a crime or disgrace? Near-sightedness is a physical defect that is often very inconvenient; but who ever thought to trace the pedigree of bald or near-sighted people, to see if they might enter into wedlock.

PHILIP G. GILLETT.

Jacksonville, Ill., Oct. 22.

Bananas in Mississippi.

The principal of the Mississippi Institution beguiles his idle hours by cultivating bananas, he having several trees in his front yard. He is trying to demonstrate that their successful culture in that State is possible.

A School For India.

Mr. F. Maginn writes to inform us that when he was at the Deaf-Mute College, Washington, U. S. A., three years ago, he wrote to the Marquis of Dufferin and Ara, then the Governor-General of India, offering to establish a school there, provided that he received pecuniary assistance from the India Government. His letter was referred to the Educational Department at Calcutta, and he was promised assistance from the Government if he succeeded in raising one half the amount needed by voluntary contributions.

Under these circumstances, Mr. Maginn gave up the undertaking and he heard no more about it until last April, when, to his surprise, he received a letter from Sahib Girandra Nath Bhoose, who is a wealthy educated Hindu, having a deaf son, informing Mr. Maginn that he heard how he had applied to the Government and that he had not received the encouragement he desired. The gentleman further said that he and a friend intended taking the matter up and asked Mr. Maginn to direct him. Accordingly Mr. Maginn gave him as much information as he could. Having referred to the Government, he was directed to write back for more information as to expenditure, &c., and in his last letter he writes:

"I thank you very much for the information you have been good enough to furnish me with. I am glad to be able to state that the question of founding a Deaf-Mute Institution in this Presidency town (Calcutta) has since been taken in hand by the Government at my instance, and measures are on the tapis for maturing the project."—*Leeds, (England) Deaf and Dumb Times*.

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TERMS OF ADMISSION.

THE NEW JERSEY SCHOOL FOR Deaf-Mutes, established by act approved March 31st, 1882, offers its advantages on the following conditions: The candidate must be a resident of the State, not less than eight nor more than twenty-one years of age, deaf, and of sufficient physical health and intellectual capacity to profit by the instruction afforded. The person making application for the admission of a child as a pupil is required to fill out a blank form, furnished for the purpose, giving necessary information in regard to the case. The application must be accompanied by a certificate from a county judge or county clerk of the county, or the chosen freeholder or township clerk of the township, or the mayor of the city, where the applicant resides, also by a certificate from two freeholders of the county. These certificates are printed on the same sheet with the forms of application, and are accompanied by full directions for filling them out. Blank forms of application, and any desired information in regard to the school, may be obtained by writing to the following address:

Weston Jenkins, A. M.,
Trenton, N. J. Superintendent.

Climb Stairs Awkwardly.

Mr. Ray went to Trinidad Friday and brought back with him Jose Mestas, Cipriano Bustos and three deaf girls, all Mexicans. The new arrivals manifest the same dread and awkwardness in climbing our stairs that characterize most of the Mexican pupils on their first coming, stairs being something unknown to the adobe one-story civilization of the southern part of the State.—*Colorado Index*.